

## FOREWORD

*Idaho's Conservation Partnership 2005 Report of Accomplishments* highlights the diverse conservation activities and accomplishments of the 51 Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Districts (Conservation Districts), the Idaho Soil Conservation Commission (Commission), and the Idaho District Employees Association (IDEA). The Conservation Districts, along with the Commission and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), are the primary entities for resource conservation work conducted on private lands in Idaho.

Conservation Districts serve as an effective liaison between local, State, and Federal resource management agencies in the coordination and delivery of state and national programs for landowners and land managers. This collaborative effort provides technical knowledge, financial assistance, and broad-based educational programs for natural resource conservation and management.

All technical and financial assistance is based on a program participant's voluntary development of a conservation plan. Conservation plans provide resource assessments that allow landowners and land managers to optimize their natural resources and achieve a sustainable operation that contributes to healthy ecosystems, landscapes, and watersheds.

Each Conservation District's *Synopsis of Assistance Coordinated for Constituents* is an overview of the financial and programmatic assistance provided to landowners and land managers. It is important to note that Conservation District operations are funded by dollars received from the county and by matching State funds. As the primary delivery system for local, state, and federal natural resource conservation programs and technical and financial activities, Conservation Districts are the key to sustainable natural resource conservation in Idaho.

